



# Sustainability Through Innovation

Caltrans' new Philip S. Raine Safety Roadside Rest Area on State Route 99 earned the Platinum "Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design" certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

**S**ustainability and environmental stewardship are key priorities for the California State Transportation Agency and Caltrans. In early 2013, Caltrans released a comprehensive report, [Caltrans Activities to Address Climate Change](#), detailing our efforts to address climate change by curbing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and embracing new technology, such as low-energy cement and efficient LED lighting. The report shows that Caltrans or its contractors have reduced emissions by more than 161,000 tons annually, the equivalent of removing 31,000 cars from the road. Furthermore, Caltrans was one of the first state agencies to successfully certify its GHG inventory with the California Climate Action Registry. The registry provides estimates of the amount of GHG emitted to and removed from the atmosphere by human activities.

Climate change poses a growing threat to California's economy, environment, and infrastructure. To prepare for climate change and adapt to its effects, Caltrans is focused on preserving our state's existing transportation infrastructure, while continually developing better solutions for reducing GHG emissions.

Caltrans is the only state agency in California that applied to issue federally backed Clean Renewable Energy Bonds, or CREBs. In 2009, the state announced the sale of \$20 million in CREBs to pay

Summary of Caltrans' Efforts to Reduce GHG Emissions

| Strategy                                 | Average Annual GHG Reductions (tons CO <sub>2</sub> ) |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Alternatives to conventional concrete*   | 47,236                                                |
| Alternatives to conventional asphalt*    | 61,475                                                |
| Roadway lighting                         | 38,819                                                |
| Alternative fuels and vehicles in fleets | 2,182                                                 |
| Renewable energy projects                | 1,391                                                 |
| Building energy and water efficiency     | 3,511                                                 |
| Workplace commute programs               | 6,465                                                 |
| Total                                    | 161,079                                               |

\*Annual reduction values are based on 2011 data instead of average annual reductions  
Source: April 2013 report, "Caltrans Activities to Address Climate Change"

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